These changes are intended to facilitate genuine cases and to increase transparency in transplantation procedures. In so far as the Act is concerned the following amendments have been proposed:

i) To allow swap operations between the related donor and recipients who do not match themselves but match with other similar donors/recipients.

ii) To empower Union Territories, specially Government of NCT of Delhi to have their own appropriate authority instead of DGHS and/or Additional DG (Hospitals).

iii) To make the punishments under the Act harsh and cognizable for the Illegal transplantation activities to deter the offenders from committing this crime.

iv) To provide for registration of the centres for removal of organs from the cadavers and brain stem dead patients for harvesting of organs instead of registration of centres for transplantations only.

Sale/purchase of human organs is already prohibited under Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994. Appropriate authorities established under this Act are responsible and empowered to check the illegal activities of human organs trafficking.

Amendment of drugs and cosmetics act

1346.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had agreed in the inter-ministerial meeting held in the Ministry of Finance on 7 June, 2007 to amend Rule 43A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act in order to remove the grievances and harassment to the importers of the Drugs at the Inland Container Depots in Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether the amendment has been made and if not, by when these amendments will be put into effect to remove the illusionary obstacles created in import and export of drugs through Inland Container Depots in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The draft rules for inviting comments of the public are being published through a Gazette Notification. The final amendment would be published after examination of the comments received on the proposed amendment as provided under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945.

Port officers under DCGI

1347.PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the responsibilities/functions of the Port Officers of Drug Controller General of India at IGIA;

(b) whether it is a fact that clearance of Drugs at IGIA, Delhi is the responsibility of the Port Officers of Drug Controller General of India;

(c) if so, whether further amendments of Rule 43A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act is needed to clear the import of drugs at the IGIA; and